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Subject: 6SF WAR for July 20, 2016

WEEKLY ACTIVITY REPORT SUPERFUND DIVISION (6SF) JULY 20, 2016

HIGHLANDS PRIVATE WELLS IN HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS: On July 7, Harris County Pollution Control Services began resampling private wells in communities surrounding the San Jacinto Waste Pits site. The first round of sampling revealed some possible contamination with dioxins, however, laboratory contamination with pentachlorophenol was also reported. Resampling results from the four most potentially impacted wells were received on July 14. The sampling results indicate very low to non-detect levels of dioxins, all were below the Maximum Contaminant Level. The Agency is providing direct technical support to Harris County Pollution Control Services. Superfund Risk Assessors are evaluating the data to determine if safe levels of drinking water are exceeded, and the EPA Houston Laboratory is assisting in evaluating the quality of the sampling data. Region 6 is prepared to support any response to ensure that residents are not consuming unhealthy water. **(Banipal, x7324, Meyer, x6742, Crossland, x2721)**

NORTH LITTLE ROCK SALVAGE YARD SITE, NORTH LITTLE ROCK, AR: The W.R. Grace Company is currently conducting a time-critical removal action at the North Little Rock Salvage Yard Site (NLRSY) with oversight by EPA. The NLRSY site is a former vermiculite exfoliation facility that received and processed over 85,000 tons of vermiculite from the Zonolite mine in Libby, Montana. Vermiculite from the Libby mine is known to be contaminated with a form of amphibole asbestos. This facility was previously owned and operated by the W.R. Grace Company. The ongoing removal action is expected to be completed by September 2016. The removal involves the completion of a soil and air assessment, removal of contaminated soils from four residential properties, and the removal of approximately 15,000 tons of asbestos-contaminated soil from on and surrounding the former exfoliation plant. Grace is conducting the removal under an Administrative Order on Consent with Region 6. **(Crossland, x2721)**

WPX-NAGEEZI FIRE - NAGEEZI, NM: At approximately 10:15 PM on July 11, 2016, an explosion with subsequent fire occurred at the WPX West Lybrook Unit No. 1 oil well pad located approximately 2 miles southwest of the town of Nageezi, New Mexico. The well pad includes 6 wells which were recently installed and were in the process of being brought online. Thirty-six tanks, each approximately 500 barrels in size, holding flowback liquids and a mix of crude oil, water and proprietary fracking chemicals, exploded and burned in the fire. A voluntary evacuation of approximately 50 residents was conducted. EPA deployed an OSC to the incident on Tuesday, July 12. EPA conducted air monitoring in the site area. EPA also deployed the surveillance aircraft to conduct spectral analysis of the smoke plume. Due to the volatile nature of the burning crude oil the fire was allowed to burn for three days before local fire crews applied suppressant foam. The fire was officially declared out the afternoon of July 13. The cause of the explosion and fire has not yet been determined. **(Crossland, x2721)**

Region 6 Warehouse Management and Logistics Services Contract: Region 6 Warehouse Management and Logistics Services Contract was awarded to HCI Inc. on July 13, 2016. The current

Period of Performance on the contract is August 23, 2016 to August 22, 2017 (base year). The new contractor has indicated that they have begun the recruiting process and when completed will begin the process of obtaining Security Clearances. **(Talton, x7205)**

US OIL RECOVERY (USOR), 400 REMOVAL (A6MX) / PASADENA, TX: An Administrative Agreement and Order on Consent (AOC) was signed on July 14, 2016 between EPA and the PRP Group to address the removal of solids from above ground storage tanks and process equipment. In accordance with the AOC, the PRP Group has provided the \$50,000 for EPA oversight, and plans to begin the operation on July 18. It is estimated the removal operation will take approximately 2.5 months. This operation will be conducted and have no impact on the stabilization AOC operation (A6X7), which began in 2011 and will continue until all above ground hazardous substances and pollutants or contaminants have been removed. This Site was listed on the NPL in 2011. Also during the week of July 27–29, 2016, sampling will be conducted at the MCC Property (200 N. Richey) by EPA contractors to gather more information regarding the contamination at the site. Soil samples and wastewater sludge samples will be taken and analyzed at the Houston Lab. The sampling results are expected in September. Kinder Morgan Tejas Pipeline will be hydrotested during the same time period at the MCC property and is not expected to interfere with the sampling activity. **(Crossland, x2721 and Meyer x6742)**

EXPLO SYSTEMS, INC. (OU3)/CAMP MINDEN, LA: The 24 hour/day destruction of M6 operation continued this week with Explosive Systems Inc. (ESI) reporting on the dashboard as of 8:30 AM on Sunday, July 17, 2016, 3,160,358 pounds destroyed (20.1 %) of the original estimated 15,687,247 pounds. ESI added real-time air monitoring data for NO_x, O₂, and CO to the dashboard on July 1. Cumulative total pounds destroyed and percentage destroyed are provided on the dashboard (www.esicampminden.com). ESI community air monitoring results are provided in real time on the dashboard and no significant measurements have been reported by Louisiana Military Department (LMD) and ESI. EPA air monitoring results are posted daily to the www.EPA.gov/LA/Camp-Minden website. No significant measurements outside of background concentrations have been observed. The next scheduled Citizen's Advisory Group (CAG) meeting is scheduled for August 8. **(Crossland, x2721)**

LANE PLATING: A Site Inspection (SI) was conducted the week of July 18. The Surface Water Pathway was evaluated during the SI. The Removal Assessment Report has been finalized, and a site visit was conducted by EPA Enforcement Officers on July 19. The State has requested a meeting regarding bankruptcy proceedings with the EPA. **(Crossland, x2721; Banipal x7324)**

LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE'S (LEPC) WORKSHOPS, CLOVIS, ALBUQUERQUE, AND FARMINGTON, NM: Emergency Management Branch staff conducted two Region 6 LEPC workshops the week of July 18, in Clovis, Farmington, and Albuquerque, New Mexico. Approximately 80 individuals were expected to attend the workshops. This year's workshops focus on requirements of Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act for industry and LEPC's, emergency preparedness, and proposed regulations under Resource Conservation and Recovery Act and the Clean Air Risk Management Plan programs. The Department of Homeland Security and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration participated in the workshops this year as part of the Chemical Safety Executive Order. **(Crossland, x2721)**

TAR CREEK SUPERFUND SITE: On July 19, 2016, EPA Region 6 held a stakeholder meeting. The meeting was attended by the EPA Region 7, Quapaw Tribe, Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ), Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), Eastern Shawnee, Wyandotte Nation, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Peoria Tribe, Miami Nation, Local Environmental Action Demanded (LEAD) community group, Spring River Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS), Grand River Dam Authority (GRDA), and Grand Lake Watershed Alliance Foundation.

Updates on Tar Creek Operable Unit (OU) 2, OU4, and OU5 were provided by EPA R6, Quapaw, and ODEQ. Updates on Cherokee County were provided by EPA Region 7. In addition, EPA Region 6 provided an update on the planning and logistics for the August 16, 2016, community open house while LEAD updated the group on the upcoming Tar Creek Conference scheduled for September 13 and 14, 2016. The Spring River WRAPS representative provided an update on their plans to model the Grand Lake watershed with a primary focus on nutrients. **(Meyer, x6742)**

SUPULPA, MERCURY SPILL, SUPULPA, OK: Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ) advised EPA of a mercury spill that occurred in a residential property in Supulpa, OK. The resident attempted to clean up the spill but has since been diagnosed with mercury poisoning. ODEQ has conducted an assessment and found evidence of mercury still within the residence. ODEQ has requested EPA assistance. On July 20, two EPA OSCs and EPA's contractor conducted an assessment and future EPA action is being evaluated. **(Crossland, x2721)**

SAN JACINTO RIVER WASTE PITS: On July 20 and 21, a Superfund Enforcement Officer was at the Harris County Clerk's Office in Houston, TX to conduct additional research on the most current ownership of the site. **(Banipal, x7324.)**

WILCOX OIL COMPANY SUPERFUND SITE: On July 21, 2016, the EPA and Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ) held an Open House to meet with the community and discuss the Remedial Investigation Phase 2 Mobilization 1 field activities. The EPA and ODEQ provided a short slide presentation summarizing completed field actions and detailing upcoming field actions. Following the meeting, EPA and ODEQ were available to discuss the site with the community and answer additional questions. Also, prior to the Open House, the EPA and ODEQ met with the Mayor to provide a site status and progress update. During the same week, the EPA and ODEQ met with residents that will be directly impacted by field sampling activities scheduled for September 2016. The purpose of the visits was to familiarize and provide them with information related to sample locations and methods that are currently planned on their property. The EPA and ODEQ provided maps of sample locations, described the planned field schedule, and detailed the field sampling activities that would be taking place. The EPA and ODEQ answered all questions the residents had and encouraged them to call should they have additional questions prior to field activities. **(Meyer, x6742/Talton, x7205)**

OFFICE OF SITE REMEDIATION AND ENFORCEMENT (OSRE) DIALOGUE MEETING: On July 21, Superfund Technical and Enforcement Branch and the Office of Regional Counsel Superfund Branch met with OSRE for the annual Region 6/OSRE Dialogue meeting. The topics included the pipeline of PRP sites, upcoming Prior Written Approvals and Prior Referral Notices and OSRE assistance at enforcement sites. **(Banipal, x7324)**

TRONOX COMMUNITY OUTREACH, CROWNPOINT, MCKINLEY COUNTY, NM: OSCs participated in community outreach at the Navajo Nation Eastern Agency Fair in Crownpoint July 21-23. Region 6 personnel operated an information booth at the fair in coordination with Region 9. **(Crossland, x2721)**

MONROE TAB WORKSHOP, JULY 25: Brownfields staff continue to work with TAB in the planning of the Monroe Louisiana brownfields workshop which is scheduled for July 25. **(Talton, x7205)**

HOPE IRON AND METAL SITE, HOPE, AR: EPA staff are preparing an assessment sampling plan for this former metal salvage shop (metals and PCB contamination). The current schedule is to conduct sampling during August 15-19. **(Crossland, x2721)**

BROWNFIELDS REGIONAL CONFERENCE: Brownfields staff continues to progress in the planning of the upcoming Region 6 Brownfields conference for August 30–September 1. Staff are currently working on the speaker invitee list. With the help of the Kansas State Technical Assistance Brownfields partner, EPA is able to get potential speakers from other parts of the country to bring in other perspectives from the west, north, and northeast parts of the country. The Conference is planned for the end of August. So far, there are 40 registrants. **(Talton, x7205)**

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